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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/045,578	01/11/2002	Junichi Otsuka	81747.0212	8517

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HOGAN & HARTSON L.L.P.
500 S. GRAND AVENUE
SUITE 1900
LOS ANGELES, CA 90071-2611

EXAMINER

CAO, DIEM K

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2126

DATE MAILED: 03/18/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/045,578

Applicant(s)

OTSUKA ET AL.

Examiner

Diem K Cao

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 11 January 2002.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-18 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-18 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

1. Claims 1-18 are presented for examination.

Priority

2. Receipt is acknowledged of papers submitted under 35 U.S.C. 119(a)-(d), which papers have been placed of record in the file.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

3. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

4. Claims 1, 7-8 and 14 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Epson et al. (OLE for Retail POS – Application Programmer's Guide).

5. **As to claim 1**, Epson teaches a peripheral device connected to a host computer (see diagram on page 11), the host computer running an operating system (Operating system; page 11) and an application capable of controlling the peripheral device (Application; see diagram on page 11), the host computer including a device control system for controlling the peripheral device through the operating system (OPOS Control; pages 11-12), the device control system including a first object (Control object; pages 11-12) providing a device class interface to the

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application (A Control Object exposes a set of properties, methods and events to an application for its device class; page 12 and see diagram on page 11) and a second object providing an interface for the peripheral device to the first object (A Service object ... with multiple device classes; page 12 and see the diagram on page 11), the second object recording status change data indicating a change in a device status (StatusUpdataEvent:Report a change in the device's status, the Service Object enqueues events as they occur; page 22 and When the application is ready ... a DataEvent; page 24).

6. However, Epson does not explicitly teach a status change data recording unit in the second object. Epson teaches the second object capable of receiving and recording status change data of a device (StatusUpdataEvent:Report a change in the device's status, the Service Object enqueues events as they occur; page 22 and When the application is ready ... a DataEvent; page 24).

7. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art that there would be functions (unit) to carry out the receiving and recording functionality of the object.

8. **As to claim 7**, Epson teaches the device control system is OLE for Retail POS (The OLE for Retail POS; page 11), the first object is a control object (Control Object or CO; pages 11-12), and the second object is a service object (Service Object or SO; pages 11-12).

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9. **As to claim 8**, it is the same as of claim 1 and is rejected under the same ground of rejection.

10. **As to claim 14**, see rejection of claim 7 above.

11. Claims 2-6, 9-13, and 15-18 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Epson et al. (OLE for Retail POS – Application Programmer's Guide) in view of Gresham (U.S. 6,741,558 B1).

12. **As to claim 2**, Epson teaches a receiving unit for receiving status data indicating a device status from the peripheral device (StatusUpdateEvent:Report a change in the device's status, the Service Object enqueues events as they occur; page 22).

13. However, Epson does not teach a status change data detection unit for detecting status data that changed as status change data based on the status data received by the receiving unit and previously received status data. Gresham teaches unit for detecting status data that changed as status change data based on the status data received by the receiving unit and previously received status data (col. 7, lines 25-55).

14. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to combine the teaching of Epson and Gresham because it provides a method to detect whether an event receive from the device is a status change event.

15. **As to claim 3**, Epson does not explicitly teach a recorded data editor for editing the status change data to status change recording data for recording to the status change recording unit.

Gresham teaches a recorded data editor for editing the status change data to status change recording data for recording to the status change recording unit (col. 7, lines 31-36).

16. **As to claim 4**, Gresham teaches a recorded data evaluation unit for determining, based on predefined recording conditions, whether the status change data detected by the status change data detection unit is data to be recorded in the status change recording unit (col. 7, lines 36-44).

17. **As to claim 5**, Epson teaches the status change data includes error status and/or off-line status data (OPOS_S_ERROR; page 18 and page 27). Gresham teaches the recording conditions include information indicating whether the error status and/or off-line status data is to be recorded (col. 7, lines 36-44).

18. **As to claim 6**, Gresham teaches a recorded data generating unit for converting the status change data detected by the status change data detection unit to a text message and adding time information to the text message to generate the status change recording data (col. 7, lines 33-36 and 48-60).

19. **As to claims 9-13**, see rejections of claims 2-6 above.

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20. **As to claim 15**, see rejections of claims 8-14 above.
21. **As to claim 16**, see rejections of claims 1, 2, 4 and 6 above.
22. **As to claim 17**, see rejection of claim 5 above.
23. **As to claim 18**, see rejection of claim 7 above.

Conclusion

24. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

- Knight et al. (U.S. 5,787,019) teaches system and method for handling dynamic changes in device states.
- Sharpe, Jr. et al. (U.S. 5,960,214) teaches integrated communication network for use in a field device management system.
- Baird et al. (U.S. 6,823,519 B1) teaches Control object and user interface for controlling networked devices.
- IEE Inc. teaches OPOS Standard opens up the world of customer pole displays and OPOS Application Notes

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Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Diem K Cao whose telephone number is (571) 272-3760. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday - Friday, 8:00AM - 3:30PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Meng-Ai An can be reached on (571) 272-3756. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Any response to this action should be mailed to:

Commissioner for Patents
PO Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application should be directed to the TC 2100 Group receptionist at 571-272-2100.

Due to the realignment of WG 2120, effective March 20, 2005, AU 2126 will become AU 2194

Diem Cao


MENG-AL T. AN
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2100